

between incorporated material and that of the written specification, the written specification shall control. In addition, while the invention has been described in detail with respect to specific embodiments thereof, it will be apparent to those skilled in the art that various alterations, modifications and other changes may be made to the invention without departing from the spirit and scope of the present invention. It is therefore intended that the claims cover all such modifications, alterations and other changes encompassed by the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A percutaneous gastrointestinal anchoring kit comprising:

an anchor having a ballooned region at a distal end of the anchor and a shaft portion extending from the ballooned region to a proximal end of the anchor, both the ballooned region and the shaft manufactured of a hollow, collapsible, homogeneous polymeric material, the material in the ballooned region being substantially thinner in wall thickness than the material in the shaft portion;

an introducer for traversing body tissue layers from an exterior surface of a patient body to a gastric lumen interior to the patient body, the introducer adapted to insert and deploy the anchor within the patient body;

a guide for positioning at least the ballooned region of the anchor from the introducer into the gastric lumen while enabling at least the proximal end of the anchor to be manipulable at the exterior surface of the patient body;

an inflator for cooperating with the proximal end of the anchor for introducing a fluid into or removing a fluid out of the anchor so as to selectively inflate or deflate the ballooned region within the gastric lumen; and

a retainer for securing the anchor within the gastric lumen when the ballooned region is inflated, the retainer seated against the exterior surface of the patient body for capturing and securing the proximal end of the anchor and for placing a tractive force on the ballooned region so as to pull the gastric lumen to an interior abdominal wall of the patient body.

2. The percutaneous gastrointestinal anchoring kit of claim 1 wherein the anchor comprises polyurethane.

3. The percutaneous gastrointestinal anchoring kit of claim 1 wherein the ballooned region is preshaped so as to possess a flattened bearing surface for contacting the gastric lumen when the ballooned region is inflated.

4. The percutaneous gastrointestinal anchoring kit of claim 1 wherein the anchor comprises a tip distal to the ballooned region.

5. The percutaneous gastrointestinal anchoring kit of claim 1 wherein the anchor comprises a connector at the proximal end for attachable and detachable interaction with the inflator.

6. The percutaneous gastrointestinal anchoring kit of claim 1 wherein the inflator comprises a syringe.

7. The percutaneous gastrointestinal anchoring kit of claim 1 wherein the introducer comprises a needle adapted to make the initial penetration through the body tissue layers and into the gastric lumen.

8. The percutaneous gastrointestinal anchoring kit of claim 7 wherein the needle comprises a trocar tip.

9. The percutaneous gastrointestinal anchoring kit of claim 1 wherein the introducer is longitudinally splittable and removable in at least two longitudinally discrete parts.

10. The percutaneous gastrointestinal anchoring kit of claim 1 wherein the introducer comprises a slotted distal end, the slot for capturing a portion of the anchor and pushing it through the body tissue layers into the gastric lumen prior to deployment.

11. The percutaneous gastrointestinal anchoring kit of claim 1 wherein the guide comprises a rod attached to the distal end of the anchor, extending along the shaft and terminating near the proximal end of the anchor, the rod adapted to transfer movement from the proximal end of the anchor to the distal end of the anchor so as to effect a movement in the ballooned region.

12. The percutaneous gastrointestinal anchoring kit of claim 11 wherein the rod is situated internal to the anchor and has a cross sectional area of between about one-third to about two-thirds of a cross sectional area of an inside diameter of the shaft portion of the anchor.

13. The percutaneous gastrointestinal anchoring kit of claim 1 wherein the guide comprises a removable wire.

14. The percutaneous gastrointestinal anchoring kit of claim 1 wherein the retainer is adapted to secure the anchor in place by tying the shaft portion of the anchor to the retainer.

15. The percutaneous gastrointestinal anchoring kit of claim 1 comprising a bandage for placement over the surgical site and retainer.

16. The percutaneous gastrointestinal anchoring kit of claim 1 wherein the retainer comprises a flattened, substantially washer-like component.

17. The percutaneous gastrointestinal anchoring kit of claim 1 wherein the retainer comprises a base plate for capturing a portion of the shaft and retaining it therein, and a cap for covering the base plate and portion of the shaft.

18. The percutaneous gastrointestinal anchoring kit of claim 1 comprising a tray for containment of the articles enumerated.

19. The percutaneous gastrointestinal anchoring kit of claim 18 comprising a sterilization permeable cover membrane secured to the tray.

20. The percutaneous gastrointestinal anchoring kit of claim 1 wherein the anchor is internally situated within the bore and is deployed therefrom.

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